PATENT

DK-US030174

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Mamoru ASAKAWA et al.

Serial No.: New - (National Phase of

PCT/JP2004/009919)

International filing date: July 12, 2004

For: PIPE JOINT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the subject application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the <u>Listing of Claims</u>, which begins on page 5 of this paper. Claims 1-20 are pending, with claim 1 being the only independent claim.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 11 of this paper and include two (2) attached replacement sheets.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper.